

[Sri A. J. John]

Ayurveda

46. A faculty of Ayurveda is proposed to be established under the Travancore University. A provision of Rs. 2 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1951-52 for starting a degree course in the Ayurveda College. Government consider it necessary to extend the activities of the Ayurveda Pharmacies and new pharmacies will be opened in important centres in the State. Provision has also been made in the Budget for giving grants-in-aid to new private dispensaries, and for increasing the grants to existing ones.

Public Works Department

47. The Budget for the next year provides for Rs. 202 lakhs for expenditure under Public Works against Rs. 164 lakhs in the revised budget for the current year. The maintenance of National Highways is the responsibility of the Government of India according to the terms of federal financial integration. We have decided to provide dustless surfacing to the remaining District roads. A special fund for this scheme has been created and a sum of Rs. 14.47 lakhs is provided for this purpose in the next year's budget. Though it means large initial capital expenditure, it will substantially curtail the maintenance expenditure for the coming years besides providing better facilities for communication immediately.

48. A new scheme consisting of two 5 year plans has been sanctioned for the development of village roads. Survey has already been conducted and new plans and blue prints are ready for a few taluks. A "Village Road Development Fund" has been constituted during the current year with a nucleus of Rs. 4 lakhs and a provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made for the ensuing year. There is provision for such works in the Village Uplift Department also.

49. The rural Water Supply Schemes to Cape, and several villages in the south have already been taken up in addition to the Water Supply Schemes at Muttom and other Centres, which are being continued. The investigation for supply of Alwaye water to Vypeen Pallippuram via Vadakkekara is in progress. Provision has also been made to complete the works previously financed from the Canal and Road Development Fund.

50. *Veterinary*.—With a view to salvaging dry cows and improving the stock and breed, a Pilot Key Village Scheme will be started with a subsidy from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Provision has also been made for a scheme for improving poultry farming.

Industries

51. I am glad to announce that almost all the State-sponsored industrial concerns have already turned the corner. They have registered considerable progress during the year and are slowly beginning to earn profits. Insufficient finance for full capital commitments, caused by increases in the price of building materials and machinery, had arrested the progress of some of these concerns for some time. But the timely and liberal help rendered by Government in deserving cases enabled them to push on with their programme. The most outstanding results are those of the Travancore Cements Ltd., the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., the Travancore Rayons Ltd., the Aluminium Industries Ltd., the Alagappa Textiles Ltd., and the Balarama Varma Textiles. A new textile mill, the Asok Textiles, has started working in Alwaye and proposals are under consideration for expanding production in other cotton mills in the area. The Jamna thread mills, Koratti Angadi, is expected to be ready for the production of sewing thread before the end of 1951.

52. A Caustic Soda plant is being put up at Alwaye, while the building of the Rare Earths Factory has already started. Arrangements are also progressing for